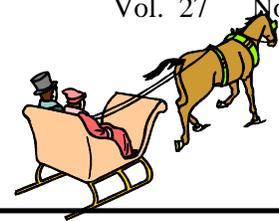




## Season's Greetings

from

**Colorado Field Office**



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### FALL POTATO STOCKS

**DECEMBER 1, 2007**

The 13 major potato States held 270 million cwt of potatoes in storage December 1, 2007, up 4 percent from last year and 6 percent above December 1, 2005. Potatoes in storage account for 68 percent of the 2007 fall storage States' production, up 1 percentage point from last year. Klamath Basin stocks totaled 4.20 million cwt on December 1, 2007, up 5 percent from last year. Klamath Basin includes California and Klamath County, Oregon potato stocks.

Potato disappearance, at 130 million cwt, is virtually unchanged from last year but up 8 percent from 2005. Season to date shrink and loss, at 13.9 million cwt, is up 5 percent from 2006 and 9 percent above 2 years ago. Processors in the 9 major States have used 72.0 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 3 percent from a year ago but 10 percent above 2 years ago. Dehydrating usage accounts for 12.7 million cwt of the total processing, down 13 percent from last year but 7 percent above the same date in 2005.

Western States held 193 million cwt of potatoes in storage on December 1, up 9 percent from last year and 8 percent above 2005. Idaho's potato stocks are up 4 percent from last year, Washington's potato sheds held 22 percent more than last year, and Oregon's stocks increased 13 percent from last season.

Central States accounted for 61.7 million cwt of potato stocks on December 1, down 4 percent from last year but 3 percent above the same date in 2005. Wisconsin's potato stocks declined 5 percent from last year, North Dakota's sheds held 16 percent less, and potato stocks in Nebraska are 10 percent below last season.

Fall potato stocks in Colorado's San Luis Valley totaled 15.2 million cwt as of December 1, 2007 down 12 percent from the stocks in storage one year earlier. The latest stocks represent

72 percent of the 20.98 million cwt produced in 2007. The December 2006 stocks represented 76 percent of the 2006 crop of 22.68 million cwt. The December 1, 2007 stocks by type in Colorado were 4 percent reds, 3 percent whites, 11 percent yellow and 82 percent russet.

Sales of Colorado's fall potatoes for table stock have averaged 69 percent of the production for the 2002-2006 period. The remaining 31 percent of production is used for seed, processing, feed and home use or is lost through cullage and shrinkage. The total quantity of potatoes sold as a percent of production has averaged about 86 percent over the past five years. If these relationships for total sales and table stock sales exist for the 2007 crop, about 18.0 million cwt of the 20.98 million cwt produced will be sold of which 14.5 million cwt will be sold as table stock.

### Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks December 1, 2006-2007

State	Crop of 2006			Crop of 2007		
	Prod.	Stocks Dec. 1, 2006	% of Prod.	Prod.	Stocks Dec. 1, 2007	% of Prod.
	<b>1,000 Cwt</b>		<b>%</b>	<b>1,000 Cwt</b>		<b>%</b>
CA .....	3,870	1,800	47	4,223	2,000	47
<b>CO.....</b>	<b>22,686</b>	<b>17,200</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>20,981</b>	<b>15,200</b>	<b>72</b>
ID.....	128,915	90,000	70	131,650	94,000	71
ME.....	17,980	14,400	80	16,530	12,700	77
MI.....	14,190	8,100	57	14,700	9,500	65
MN .....	20,400	13,300	65	20,680	13,500	65
MT.....	3,518	3,300	94	3,696	3,600	97
NE .....	8,730	5,800	66	7,800	5,200	67
NY .....	5,700	3,000	53	5,216	2,800	54
ND.....	25,480	17,300	68	23,660	14,500	61
OR .....	18,533	16,000	86	20,238	18,000	89
WA .....	89,900	49,000	55	102,300	60,000	59
WI.....	29,370	20,100	68	28,160	19,000	67
<b>13 ST.</b>	<b>389,272</b>	<b>259,300</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>399,834</b>	<b>270,000</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>						
Klamath Basin 1/		4,000			4,200	

1/ Includes potato stocks in CA and Klamath County Or.

## DRY EDIBLE BEANS - 2007

Production in Colorado, at 704 million cwt, is down 38 percent from 2006. Area harvested at 44,000 acres was 27 percent lower than the 60,000 acres harvested last year. The average yield of 1,600 pounds per acre is 300 pounds below 2006.

U.S. dry edible bean production is forecast at 25.2 million cwt for 2007, virtually unchanged from the October forecast but 4 percent above the 2006 production. Harvested acreage is forecast at 1.48 million acres, 1 percent above the last forecast but 4 percent below the previous year's acreage. The average U.S. yield is forecast at 1,708 pounds per acre, a decrease of 19 pounds from the October forecast but 131 pounds above the 2006 yield. Production is up from a year ago for large lima, baby lima, pinto, light red kidney, black, and large chickpeas. Production decreased from last year for navy, great northern, small white, dark red kidney, pink, small red, cranberry, blackeye, and small chickpeas.

Production in North Dakota is forecast at 10.6 million cwt, 38 percent above 2006. Harvested acres increased 4 percent, while the average yield, at 1,590 pounds per acre, is up 390 pounds from last year. Harvest was essentially complete by the end of October, slightly behind last year and the 5-year average. In Minnesota, production is forecast at 2.61 million cwt, 17 percent above last year. The average yield, at 1,800 pounds per acre, is up 150 pounds from 2006. Minnesota dry bean growers experienced good growing conditions throughout the season. Growers in California produced 1.25 million cwt of dry beans, 4 percent more than the previous year. The average yield, at 2,160 pounds per acre, is up 300 pounds from last season. The increase in yield more than offset the decrease in harvested acres. Production in Washington is forecast at 1.02 million cwt, up 5 percent from 2006. The average yield, at 1,700 pounds per acre, is 100 pounds above the previous year. Growers experienced good growing conditions throughout the season.

**Dry Edible Beans: Acreage, Yield, and Production, 2005-2007 1/**

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre 2/		Production 2/		
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
	<b>1,000 Acres</b>		<b>1,000 Acres</b>		<b>Pounds</b>		<b>1,000 Cwt.</b>		
California .....	67.0	59.0	65.0	58.0	1,860	2,160	1,385	1,209	1,253
<b>Colorado.....</b>	<b>70.0</b>	<b>48.0</b>	<b>60.0</b>	<b>44.0</b>	<b>1,900</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>1,320</b>	<b>1,140</b>	<b>704</b>
Idaho .....	105.0	90.0	103.0	89.0	1,850	1,800	1,862	1,906	1,602
Kansas .....	11.0	6.5	10.0	6.0	2,100	2,100	275	210	126
Michigan .....	225.0	200.0	215.0	195.0	1,900	1,550	3,910	4,085	3,023
Minnesota.....	145.0	150.0	135.0	145.0	1,650	1,800	2,430	2,228	2,610
Montana .....	19.5	18.5	18.6	17.8	1,640	1,750	282	305	311
Nebraska.....	140.0	110.0	124.0	107.0	2,200	2,280	3,870	2,728	2,440
New Mexico .....	8.2	7.5	8.2	7.5	2,400	2,400	139	197	180
New York.....	19.0	17.0	18.0	16.5	1,330	930	282	239	153
North Dakota.....	670.0	690.0	640.0	665.0	1,200	1,590	8,588	7,680	10,574
Oregon .....	10.0	8.0	9.8	7.9	1,940	1,850	176	190	146
South Dakota.....	21.5	12.5	19.0	12.2	1,180	1,750	301	224	214
Texas .....	20.0	16.0	18.0	15.4	1,320	1,500	233	238	231
Utah.....	3.0	1.4	0.5	1.3	350	300	23	2	4
Washington .....	61.0	60.0	60.5	60.0	1,600	1,700	792	968	1,020
Wisconsin.....	5.6	6.1	5.5	6.0	1,960	1,530	128	108	92
Wyoming.....	29.0	25.0	27.5	24.0	2,150	2,300	776	590	552
<b>United States .....</b>	<b>1,629.8</b>	<b>1,525.5</b>	<b>1,537.6</b>	<b>1,477.6</b>	<b>1,577</b>	<b>1,708</b>	<b>26,772</b>	<b>24,247</b>	<b>25,235</b>

1/ Excludes beans grown for garden seed. 2/ Clean Basis.

## FALL POTATO PRODUCTION 2007 CROP

Production of fall potatoes for 2007 is forecast at 409 million cwt, up less than 1 percent from last month and 3 percent above last year. Area harvested, at 997,600 acres, is virtually unchanged from November but up 1 percent from last year. The average yield is forecast at 410 cwt per acre, up 1 cwt from last month and 4 cwt above the record high set last year.

Western States production is forecast at 288 million cwt, up 6 percent from last year. Area harvested, at 642,000 acres, increased 4 percent from last year, and the average yield of 449 cwt per acre is up 6 cwt from 2006. Idaho's yield is forecast at 377 cwt per acre. If realized this would be the second highest yield on record, 9 cwt below the record yield set in 2006. Hot weather during the summer reduced the quality of the crop. Incidences of the Potato Virus Y were more frequent than normal which adversely affected yields. In Washington, harvest progressed normally this year. The quality of the crop is acceptable but not as good as in previous years. In Colorado, a severe wind storm followed by a late freeze in mid-June damaged plants that were already emerged. The earlier planted crop was slow to recover from the damage, leading to increased yield variability.

Central States production is forecast at 96.0 million cwt, down 3 percent from last year. Harvested area, at 267,000 acres, is down 4 percent, while the average yield, at 359 cwt per acre, is up 2 cwt from a year ago. Overall, the Wisconsin crop progressed ahead of normal. Growers reported a good quality crop with harvest completed on time or early. In North Dakota, crop condition was rated fair to good throughout the growing season. Michigan and Minnesota's yields are forecast at 350 and 440 cwt per acre, respectively. If realized, these would be record high yields. Eastern States production is forecast at 24.9 million cwt, down 9 percent from last year. Area for harvest totaled 88,600 acres, 3 percent below last year, while the average yield, at 281 cwt per acre, is down 18 cwt from last season. In Maine, excellent growing and harvesting conditions resulted in a high yielding, high quality crop. In Massachusetts and Rhode Island, above average temperatures and below average precipitation forced growers in many locations to irrigate.

**Fall potato** growers in the San Luis Valley produced 20.98 million cwt of potatoes this year, down 8 percent from last year's crop. Average yield was 355 cwt per acre, 25 cwt below last year's yield. The harvested area of 59,100 acres this year was 600 acres less than in 2006.

**Fall Potatoes: Acreage, Yield, and Production, 2005-2007**

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield/Acre		Production		
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
	<b>1,000 Acres</b>		<b>1,000 Acres</b>		<b>Cwt</b>		<b>1,000 Cwt</b>		
California .....	8.6	8.2	8.6	8.2	450	515	3,306	3,870	4,223
<b>Colorado.....</b>	<b>59.9</b>	<b>59.2</b>	<b>59.7</b>	<b>59.1</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>22,910</b>	<b>22,686</b>	<b>20,981</b>
ID .....	335.0	350.0	334.0	349.0	386	377	118,288	128,915	131,650
10 SW Co.....	21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0	475	490	9,870	9,975	10,290
Other Co.....	314.0	329.0	313.0	328.0	380	370	108,418	118,940	121,360
Maine .....	58.5	57.1	58.0	57.0	310	290	15,455	17,980	16,530
Massachusetts.....	3.1	2.7	3.1	2.7	240	295	624	744	797
Michigan .....	43.5	42.5	43.0	42.0	330	350	13,910	14,190	14,700
Minnesota.....	51.0	50.0	48.0	47.0	425	440	17,630	20,400	20,680
Montana .....	10.6	11.3	10.5	11.2	335	330	3,445	3,518	3,696
Nebraska.....	19.5	20.5	19.4	20.0	450	390	8,245	8,730	7,800
Nevada .....	6.6	7.5	6.6	7.5	445	390	2,338	2,937	2,925
New Mexico .....	5.0	5.5	5.0	5.5	420	420	1,764	2,100	2,310
New York .....	20.6	19.0	19.0	18.3	300	285	5,226	5,700	5,216
North Dakota.....	100.0	97.0	98.0	91.0	260	260	20,500	25,480	23,660
Ohio .....	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.0	325	325	864	1,008	975
OR.....	35.0	36.5	35.0	36.5	530	554	22,023	18,533	20,238
Malheur .....	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	435	455	1,710	1,523	1,593
Other Co.....	31.5	33.0	31.5	33.0	540	565	20,313	17,010	18,645
Pennsylvania .....	11.0	10.5	10.5	10.0	260	220	2,750	2,730	2,200
Rhode Island .....	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	260	300	105	130	180
Washington .....	156.0	165.0	155.0	165.0	580	620	95,480	89,900	102,300
Wisconsin.....	66.0	64.5	66.0	64.0	445	440	27,880	29,370	28,160
<b>United States .....</b>	<b>993.7</b>	<b>1,010.8</b>	<b>983.0</b>	<b>997.6</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>382,743</b>	<b>398,921</b>	<b>409,221</b>

## MILK PRODUCTION

### NOVEMBER 2007

Colorado dairy herds produced 226 million pounds of milk during the November 2007 period, 7 percent above the 211 million pounds produced during the same period in 2006. The average number of milk cows on hand during the month was 120,000, up 7,000 head from the same month last year. Production per cow averaged 1,885 pounds for November, virtually unchanged from the previous year.

Milk production in the 23 major States during November totaled 13.8 billion pounds, up 3.8 percent from November 2006. October production, unrevised at 14.2 billion pounds, was up 4.1 percent from October 2006. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,654 pounds for November, 40 pounds above November 2006. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.36 million head, 101,000 head more than November 2006, and 8,000 head more than October 2007.

#### Milk Cows and Milk Production

Item	Unit	2006	2007
<b>Colorado:</b>			
Milk Cows <u>1/</u> .....	1,000 head	113	120
Production per cow <u>2/</u> .....	Pounds	1,870	1,885
Production <u>2/</u> .....	Mil. lbs.	211	226
<b>23 State Total:</b>			
Milk Cows <u>1/</u> .....	1,000 head	8,260	8,361
Production per cow <u>2/</u> .....	Pounds	1,614	1,654
Production <u>2/</u> .....	Mil. lbs.	13,332	13,833

1/ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

## UPCOMING REPORTS

Colorado and U.S. data from most of the following reports will appear in subsequent issues of AG UPDATE. However, those who have an immediate need for the data may call this office after 1:15 P.M. on the day of release - toll free 1-800-392-3202. The complete USDA report is also available on the Worldwide Web at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>

- Dec. 21 - Cattle on Feed
- Dec. 21 - Chickens and Eggs
- Dec. 21 - Cold Storage
- Dec. 21 - Livestock Slaughter
- Dec. 27 - Hogs and Pigs
- Dec. 28 - Agricultural Prices
- Jan. 4 - Turkeys Raised
- Jan. 11 - Crop Production - Annual
- Jan. 11 - Grain Stocks
- Jan. 11 - Winter Wheat and Rye Seedings
- Jan. 14 - Turkey Hatchery
- Jan. 17 - Potato Stocks
- Jan. 18 - Milk Production
- Jan. 25 - Cattle on Feed

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